

HOUSE BILL 649

By Turner M

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 5;
Title 6; Title 7; Title 13 and Title 68, relative to
secured access gate systems.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 120, Part 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 68-120-1____.

(a) The state fire marshal shall promulgate guidelines which shall be utilized by all zoning boards, including municipal planning commissions and regional planning commissions with regard to approving plans submitted by developers where vehicular access gates are to be installed surrounding gated communities, apartments and condominiums.

(b) In promulgating such guidelines, the state fire marshal shall provide for a minimum width to accommodate all types of emergency vehicles which may need to gain access to the buildings beyond such gates. At a minimum, the state fire marshal shall take into consideration that if gates are not guarded on a twenty-four-hour basis:

(1) All gates should be required to be opened electrically;

(2) A lock box should be installed to allow emergency personnel access through the gate and be able to access manual backup controls;

(3) All gates should be provided with an approved means to open it during power failures; and

(4) If there are two (2) or more gates in any single development, all gates should be operated in the same fashion.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007, the public welfare requiring it.

